

British Children

matter. Not so long ago the British government expressed the opinion to us that they were doubtful whether many children would come to Canada except in gravest emergency, and in any event they made it quite clear that no children would be sent to this country without the approval of parents or guardians.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): That is fair enough.

Mr. CRERAR: That is the information we have. As regards the expression of opinion in the body of the wire which my hon. friend read, to the effect that the gentlemen signing it wish to emphasize that the present emergency involves mass evacuation, that is a matter wholly for the British government to decide. I doubt the wisdom of accepting as fact statements that may be made on this matter by various individuals over the radio.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Are we to take that as applying to all radio broadcasts, including those of the Prime Minister?

Mr. CRERAR: May I make it clear to my hon. friend who leads the opposition that these statements over the radio emanated not from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation but from the British Broadcasting Corporation. Statements of this kind are often inaccurate. I hope to make a statement to-morrow outlining in some detail what has been done up to the present time. So far I have not been able to do so because of communications passing between ourselves and the British government.

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): Will the minister say that in addition to a statement with regard to what has been done up to the present time he will make a statement as to what may be done in the future? That is more important.

Mr. CRERAR: That, I hope, will be covered to the satisfaction of my hon. friend in the statement I shall make, as will the other questions which the hon. member has asked, based upon the telegram.

RADIO BROADCASTING

NEWS SERVICES—CANCELLATION OF TRANS-RADIO PERMIT AS OF JULY 1

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. J. COLDWELL (Rosetown-Biggart): Yesterday a question was directed to the Minister of Transport (Mr. Howe) regarding Trans-Radio press services. Can he make a statement to-day on the matter?

Hon. C. D. HOWE (Minister of Transport): The matter of news services employed by the [Mr. Crerar.]

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and associated stations is one for the board of governors to determine; it is within their exclusive province. The board will be meeting in Ottawa to-morrow to discuss that very situation, and I have no doubt they will decide the matter wisely.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

POSITION WITH RESPECT TO ENTRY OF UNITED STATES NATIONALS INTO CANADA

On the orders of the day:

Hon. R. B. HANSON (Leader of the Opposition): I desire to address to the Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King) an interrogatory, of which I have sent him notice, on a matter of considerable public importance. The position with respect to passports for Canadian nationals entering the United States has been clarified by the announcement made over the week-end, but the position with respect to entry of United States and other nationals into Canada has so far not been clarified, and we are still in the dark as to what the real position is. When I referred to this matter on a previous occasion the Prime Minister intimated that it was hoped to arrange for a measure of reciprocity. So far nothing has been announced.

The matter is of considerable importance and, in my opinion, exceedingly urgent. We are now near the end of June. Our tourist season in Canada, at best, is of very short duration. If we are to have any tourist business this season the position should be clarified at once and a public announcement made. I would ask the Prime Minister to tell the house and the country what the present position is and when we may expect a final decision on the part of the government; and if it is possible to make an announcement now, I think it should be made.

Right Hon. W. L. MACKENZIE KING (Prime Minister): My hon. friend was kind enough to intimate that he would ask the question and I am prepared to make an immediate reply.

As previously announced, the government have for some time past been giving careful consideration to the question of border control. We recognize the necessity of special vigilance in view of war conditions. We also recognize the desirability of interfering as little as possible with legitimate access to Canada by visitors from the United States.

The United States authorities have recently instituted a system of passports and visa control on all borders of the United States, to become effective on July 1. I may add